From: Todd Clark

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 1/16/02 1:23am

Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I little background on me I'm a professional software developer and have been for about four years now, but computers and the computing industry have been a big part of my life since I started coding when I was 8 and wrote my first video game at 9 (I'm 27 now).

The news that the latest judgements against Microsoft will not break up the company deeply saddens me. Microsoft has consistently used their operating system monopoly to gain unfair advantage in other markets. They've done this in two ways.

- 1. Microsoft's fails to release their complete programming APIs to public thus giving themselves an unfair advantage in any PC software market they wish to enter.
- 2. Microsoft adds malicious code to their operating system to hurt competitors in markets they wish to enter. For example Microsoft added the caching of system DLLs in windows 2000 to break Install Shield so they could enter the installer market.

As I result at my current company wevwill have to spend alot of money either rewriting our install in the new Microsoft installer product (which we would have to buy) or restructure our own product architecture.

I had nothing to do with Microsoft's vendetta against install shield why should I have to pay?

This is just one example of how Microsoft maliciously uses its monopoly power. Every second or third developer has a story about how Microsoft stabbed someone in the back (and they did stab Install shield in back because install shield helped them make their installer product).

Any solution that doesn't break the operating system group into a separate company won't solve these kinds of problems.

Even this may not solve the problem (there may still be lingering favoritism).

The world should look toward a solution to the Microsoft problem that eventually breaks up the operating system and moves PC programming and development onto a virtual machine (I say eventually because the technology isn't ready yet give it 5-10 years)